

The Honorable Ralph Hall (R-TX)
Ranking Member, Committee on Science and Technology
Floor Speech on
H.R. 85, *the Energy Technology Transfer Act*
March 12, 2007

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 85, the Energy Technology Transfer Act that was introduced by Congresswoman Judy Biggert, a most valuable and respected member of the Science Committee and former Chairwoman of the Energy Subcommittee. I thank her and Mr. Miller from North Carolina for their work on this bill.

There is concern that there is not enough assistance or education available in the area of transferring technologies in energy efficiency and distributed clean energy that has been developed by the Department of Energy and the National Laboratories to energy end-users. In this time of heightened awareness of how much energy we are using, how much energy costs, how dependent we are on foreign countries for energy feedstocks and how to continue the emissions reductions achieved thus far under various programs, it makes sense to do all we can to make sure that energy end-users are as informed as possible about what is available to them to help them become more energy efficient.

H.R. 85 would amend Section 917 of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 which requires the Secretary of Energy to distribute grants to establish a network of Advanced Energy Technology Transfer Centers for the transfer of advanced energy technologies and methods to a wide range of energy end-users, including individuals, businesses and building and industrial professionals. The bill does not create a new program; it simply improves upon the current Section 917 by specifying types of activities that may be funded, minimum criteria and priorities for qualifying applications, duration of funding, and grantee evaluation requirements.

Mr. Speaker, this is a good bill, and I encourage my colleagues to support it. With that I reserve the balance of my time.